

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-145. (Cancelled)

146. (Currently Amended) An isolated mammalian cell, wherein said cell endogenously expresses Hox11 (Hox11(+)) and lacks expression of CD45 (CD45(-)), and wherein said cell is obtained from spleen or mobilized into peripheral blood from the spleen.

147. (Cancelled)

148. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 146, wherein said cell expresses one or more cell markers selected from CD90, CD44, and CD29, but does not express CD34.

149. (Currently Amended) The cell of claim 146, wherein said cell is obtained from said spleen or peripheral blood or tissue of a mammal by a method comprising:

- a) separating cells from said spleen or peripheral blood or tissue into a first cell population which predominantly expresses CD45 antigen on the surface of said cells and a second cell population which predominantly does not express CD45 antigen on the surface of said cells; and
- b) selecting said second cell population and further separating Hox11(+) cells from said second cell population to obtain at least one Hox11(+), CD45(-) cell.

150. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 149, wherein said at least one Hox11(+), CD45(-) cell expresses one or more cell surface markers selected from CD90, CD44, and CD29, but does not express.

151-158. (Cancelled)

159. (Currently Amended) The cell of claim ~~146~~151, wherein said cell is a splenocyte.

160. (Currently Amended) The cell of claim ~~146~~158, wherein said cell is obtained from ~~bone marrow or~~ said peripheral blood.

161. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 146, wherein said cell can differentiate into two or more different cell types.

162. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 146, wherein said cell is a human cell.